

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to improve the form of the specification as originally-filed.

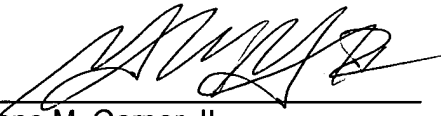
It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: January 6, 2004

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